



Arlington Council on Aging

Agenda

Date: Thursday September 15, 2022 Time: 6:00 pm

Location: This meeting will be conducted in a Hybrid format. Board members have a choice of attending in person or virtually. Residents can attend either in person, or virtually. These meetings are open to the public and all are welcome. Please call 781-316-3401 or e-mail KShah@town.arlington.ma.us for the link to join the virtual meeting which can be accessed by computer with internet access or by telephone for audio access only.

Kristine Shah, Executive Director

Michael Quinn, Chair

Sheila Connerney, Secretary

The Council's primary responsibilities are to design, promote, and implement programs and services to address the needs of the community's elder population, and to coordinate existing services in the community.

1. Call to order
2. Citizen's Open Forum
3. Minutes of the June 2022 meeting for approval
4. Executive Director's Report
6. Report of the Chair
8. Minuteman Senior Services Report
10. Old Business
11. New Business
12. Other Community Announcements
13. Adjourn - Next meeting: October 20, 2022

Executive Director's Report

Kristine Shah

- I. Reopening & Renovation
 - a. 1,384 unique individuals "active" at the community center since reopening in April
 - b. Remaining upgrades to be done include: exterior signage, exterior security cameras
 - c. Elevator refacing was completed over the summer; numerous/ongoing repairs were needed over the past few months
- II. COA Programs & Services Update
 - a. Congregate lunches are being served by MMSS every Tuesday & Wednesday. Additional days will be added over the coming months.
 - b. Partnership with Housing Trust over the summer; listening session held at Community Center and Survey assistance provided.
 - c. BINGO on Wednesdays resumed in July.
 - d. Miniature Horse Therapy event in August was well attended and we will continue to have events with mental health as a focus.
 - e. Faces of Remembrance 9/11 Memorial Wall hosted by the COA in the Main Hall
 - f. New for September: Strong and STEADI class, Ping Pong, Memorial Rock Painting Classes, Pool Tournaments, International Film Screenings with AIFF
 - g. National Senior Center Luncheon & Jazz Concert 9/29; unveiling of Memorial Rock Garden
 - h. Beginning September 1, Fitness Classes and some other programs that have costs incurred, will begin charging \$3 per class on a drop in basis. COA "Easy Tickets" have been created to help folks who use COA programs and services frequently and also double as van tickets. They never expire and can be used for luncheons or any COA costs.
 - i. Hybrid options for classes and activities continue when possible. Hybrid classes have the same fees as in-person.
 - j. Van Rides to the Community Center are still free.
- III. Age & Dementia Friendly Actions
 - a. Dementia Friendly Sub Committee
 - b. Parking
 - a. Lexington Senior Parking Program
 - b. Steering Committee of Arlington Residents meeting in October
- IV. COA Staff Update
 - a. Our new receptionist, Eva Gomez, started her full time role with us last month.
 - b. We hired a 5th COA Van Driver, Dick Wiseman, who also started this summer.
- V. Seeking Grant Funding for
 - a. Various programming costs
 - b. Café coffee & snacks

VI. Sevyan Trust Requests

- a. COA Van
- b. Sevyan Dental
- c. Sevyan Personal Needs

VII. Town Day

People that were active between 04/03/2022 and 09/08/2022

Filters:

Age: >=60

Site(s): All

Age Range as of 09/08/2022 Count Percent

Ages 55-59 27 2.0%

Ages 60-64 80 5.8%

Ages 65-69 217 15.7%

Ages 70-74 304 22.0%

Ages 75-79 248 17.9%

Ages 80-84 198 14.3%

Ages Below 55 21 1.5%

Ages Over 85 281 20.3%

Unknown 8 0.6%

Totals 1384 100%

September 2022 Sevyan Requests

As of July 31, 2022 the Charles Sevyan Charitable Trust ending market value was \$330,332 with a market change of +\$7,342.

Total Amount Requested - \$22,068

COA Van; Request: \$7,068

Our new COA Van paid for partially through a MassDOT grant arrived on September 2, 2022. This van was ordered in April 2021. MassDot has paid 80% toward the cost and we are responsible for the remaining 20% which is \$19,361. Historically, the COA Vans have been paid through the Sevyan Trust. We have \$12,294 in the Sevyan transportation account and I am seeking approval to transfer the remaining \$7,068 necessary.

Sevyan Dental; Request: \$5,000

In FY22, the Sevyan Dental fund served 23 seniors with \$6,900 in dental expense assistance. The current fund balance is \$6,936. COA Social Workers have been seeing the rising cost of dental bills and we have numerous seniors asking us for assistance in paying bills that are well over \$1,000 for one necessary procedure. I am seeking approval from the board to increase the annual per person grant amount to \$500 (from \$300) and also transfer \$5,000 from the trust which will give us a balance of \$11,936. This would allow us to spend \$500 on 23 older adults in FY23. FY21 served 21 people; FY22 served 23 people at \$300 per person.

Sevyan Personal Needs; Request: \$10,000

Many older adults exhaust all personal funds and expendable income on rent/mortgage and food. The Sevyan Peronal Needs fund is used for older adults to purchase items that they desperately need, including safety equipment for their home, personal care items, household items and crucial furniture. COA Social Workers request financial assistance from this fund for Arlington residents age 60+. There is a \$300 max benefit, per person, per year. In FY22, this fund supported 40 individuals with \$12,000 in total. The current fund balance is \$2,380. I am seeking approval to transfer \$10,000 from the trust to bring the balance to \$12,380. This will allow us to assist 41 people at \$300 per person this year.

